

# BOTANICAL GAZETTE.



Vol. IV.

MAY, 1879.

No. 5.

GERARDIA TENUIFOLIA, Vahl, var. ASPERULA.—Leaves all nearly filiform, the upper side hispidulo scabrous or asperulous (in the manner of *G. aspera*): inflorescence more paniculate and with the pedicels all ascending: corolla small, the expanded limb only half an inch in diameter.

Dry and bare hills and bluffs, Missouri to Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. This well marked variety I received many years ago from the late *T. J. Hale*, who collected it at St. Croix, Wisconsin, and in Fillmore Co., Minnesota; and I have also a fragment from Michigan. Mr. H. Eggert of St. Louis—a good collector and keen observer—now sends it from Eastern Missouri, and notes how different it is from the *G. tenuifolia* of the neighborhood (but which grows in open woods), the latter being my var. *macrophylla* or approaching it. The present plant diverges quite as much from the typical *G. tenuifolia* in another direction, and should certainly have a distinctive name.—

ASA GRAY.

SOME RARE PLANTS.—In Mr. Curtiss' last article on the Flora of the Shell Islands of Northern Florida, he mentions the fact of his finding a species of *Peperomia*. Judging from the meagre description given it is probably the same plant as one found by Miss Reynolds in the Indian river region of that State, and which can be confidently stated to be identical with specimens in the Herbarium of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, collected by Nuttall's correspondent Mr. Ware, and described by that author, as I am informed by Dr. Gray, in an early number of Silliman's Journal. Nuttall's ticket reads thus: "*\*Piper leptostachyon*, East Florida, Mr. Ware." The asterisk, as given above, is his well known indication of a new species. The plant is evidently a *Peperomia*, a genus separated from *Piper* (as I suppose) since the date of the above mentioned publication. It is singular that this plant, so long ago discovered, should not have been again detected until during the past year, and that the publication of the name, with well preserved specimens to back it, should have been neglected by subsequent authors. At least one other species, *P. magnoliæfolia*, has been found within a year or two by Dr. Garber in South Florida.